

Guest & Side Chairs

1

Coordinate Metal Finishes Across the Room

The most common mistake in guest chair selection is mixing metal finishes — chrome legs with brushed gold accents with matte black frames in the same space. Pick one metal finish family and stick with it across all seating and hardware in the room.

2

Test Seat Height vs. Your Desk Height

Guest chairs that sit significantly lower than the executive's chair create an awkward power dynamic and a visually off-balance scene. Confirm seat heights are within 1"–2" of each other.

3

Two Chairs Is Almost Always Right for Private Offices

Three chairs in front of a desk crowds the space and rarely has both in use simultaneously. Two chairs creates the right dynamic for a one-on-one or two-on-one conversation. Add a conference table for larger meetings.

4

COM Upholstery for Perfect Fabric Match

If exact fabric coordination with existing room upholstery matters, specify COM (Customer's Own Material) and provide the manufacturer with your fabric. Costs more than standard but guarantees a match.

5

Clean-Finish Chairs for Healthcare and Food Service

In settings where chairs need to be wiped down between users, hard-shell polypropylene or vinyl upholstery is far more practical than fabric. It cleans in seconds and doesn't absorb contaminants.

6

Weight Rate for Public Access

In reception or waiting areas where the public sits, plan for 300-lb-rated chairs minimum. Most of the population fits within 250 lbs, but 300 lb ratings ensure you're not creating an awkward situation for anyone.

7

Sled Base Chairs Stack Easily

Many sled-base guest chairs are designed to stack — confirm stacking compatibility before buying if you need to store chairs when not in use. This is a significant practical feature for conference rooms with flexible setups.

8

Reception Chairs Represent Your Brand

The chairs clients sit in while waiting are often the first physical interaction they have with your business. Budget accordingly — this is brand impression, not just seating.

9

Consider Cleanability When Choosing Fabric

Light fabrics in reception areas look great when new but show wear and staining quickly. Darker, pattern-forward fabrics hide everyday use much better. In high-traffic waiting areas, a medium-tone textured fabric is the most practical choice.

10

Ask About Lead Time Before You Need Them

Guest chairs for a specific finish, fabric, or COM specification sometimes have longer lead times than standard options. If you have a move-in date, confirm lead time when ordering — not after.